

Hoodwink #20

"A Dip Zine for Purists"

Stven Carlberg, Editor, Publisher and Gamemaster.

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Et toi!

A festive weekend at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival is just behind me, and a conventional weekend at DeepSouthCon, where I'll be leading a discussion on Robert Heinlein's *Glory Road*, looms as near ahead.

I *could* tell you in great detail just how busy my life has been since the last issue of **Hoodwink**. But I won't.

Instead I'll tell you that I've decided to try including for those **Hoodwink** readers who, we shall presume, have some interest in music, copies of the only apazine I still publish, a little number called **Yer Blues** which I've been doing for some years for a press alliance called the Amateur Long Playing Society. Lately I seem to have found a one-page groove with this zine, and at that rate I figure there should be room for it in your **Hoodwink** envelopes every other month (which is how often ALPS does its thing). To get you into the swing, I'm including the *two* latest issues of **Yer Blues** this time around.

Game Openings

Before I forget about it one more time, **Hoodwink** does have game openings! The game fee is \$5 and preference lists are requested. I've got a Gunboat game with five signed up, which I expect to be the last Gunboat offered here until one of the others is finished, so speak up quickly if you're interested! As for regular Diplomacy, I'm right at seven for a game and with this issue am sending out letters to the prospective players, asking them to confirm their availability for the start. My brief experience as GM has already shown that people who got on a list for a game several weeks ago sometimes find they are not available after all once the game is ready to roll, so it is entirely possible that I will yet need a seventh for this game; if you'd like a chance to play in it, I suggest you send your money and your preference list immediately. I will, in any event, start collecting names for a future regular Dip gamestart while getting the new game under way.

Poll Tacks

A couple of issues ago, as you may recall, I mentioned the "Marco Poll" which Pete Gaughan runs in his fine zine **Perelandra** and solicited your vote for **Hoodwink**.

I'm happy to report that **Hoodwink** finished 8th in Pete's poll, which was topped by a couple of very worthy zines by **Hoodwink** regulars: Douglas Kent's **Maniac's Paradise** and Garret Schenck's **Upstart**.

Now with Eric Brosius' "Runestone Poll" you get another chance to vote for **Hoodwink** and me. I'm appending a copy of Eric's ballot (which you should find interesting, if for no other reason, for its annual list of the year's active Dip and other play-by-mail zines); so if you haven't already voted on a ballot from one of the other dozen zines you get, here's a late opportunity.

DixieCon Doings

In case I haven't mentioned it already, I'll be attending this year's DixieCon in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, the weekend of May 22-24 (Memorial Day weekend). This will be my third straight year to make the trek to Chapel Hill, having started with their World DipCon in 1990 as my first Diplomacy con ever.

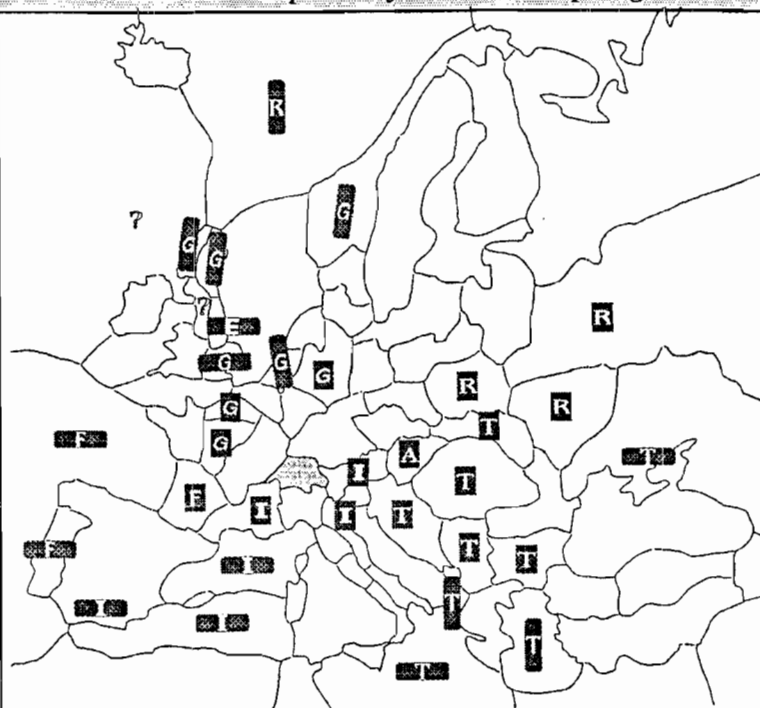
The 1992 event seems to be shaping up as something of a reunion of the 1990 con, as we've already heard from such diverse folks as Bruce Reiff (Ohio), Jason Bergmann (Texas), Jack McHugh (Pennsylvania) and Iain Bowen (Wales) that they'll be coming back to Carolina to connive at the con. (Cool!) Ward Batty and George Inzer, though they weren't at the 1990 event, are a couple more probables among **Hoodwinkers**.

I'll be bringing along **Daytona 500** and a couple of other games suitable for whiling away the time between Dip rounds. But then, so will practically everyone else. Looks like a good time shaping up! So get there, already!

Marie Galante ~ Diplomacy 1991AJ ~ Spring 1905

**NO REST FOR
THE BRITISH,
HINTS HUN**

**HOME RULE
FOR SEV,
SEZ CZAR**



Supply Centers

*
Austria: 2
TRI, VIE
England: 2
LON, LPL
France: 3
PAR, BRE, POR
Germany: 8
MUN, BER, KIE, HOL,
BEL, DEN, SWE, EDI
Italy: 6
ROM, VEN, NAP,
TUN, MAR, SPA
Russia: 4
MOS, STP, WAR, NWY
Turkey: 9
CON, ANK, SMY,
RUM, SEV, BUL, GRE,
BUD, SER

Austria: NMR! GM orders A VIE sup A TRI, A TRI sup A VIE (annihilated)
England: F CLY-EDI (retreat NAO, LPL?), F LON-YOR
France: NMR! Has A GAS, F POR, F MAO
Germany: A BEL-PIC, A DEN-KIE, A BUR-PAR, F KIE-HOL, F NTH-LON,
F NWG-CLY, F EDI sup F NWG-CLY, F SWE-NWY
Italy: F TYS-WME, F SPA(s) sup F TYS-WME, A MAR sup F SPA(s),
F GLY sup A MAR, A VEN-TYO, A ROM-VEN
Russia: A MOS-UKR, A STP-MOS, A WAR-GAL, F NWY-NWG
Turkey: A BUD-VIE, A GAL sup A BUD-VIE, A SER-TRI, F ALB sup A SER-TRI,
A GRE-SER, A CON-BUL, F ION hold, F SMY-AEG, F SEV hold

GM to Europe: As John Schultz has submitted standby orders for France once already in this game, I am naming him the player of record and removing Sean Brown. Also note that Larry Behrendt is gone, leaving the Austrian position to be played out by house rules.

Italy to Turkey: I'm taking you at your word and I am moving to continue my offensive against France. I wonder if you could allow me a teensy little slice of Austria-- say, Trieste? If I say "Pretty please with sugar on top?"

Italy to Germany: Don't worry about my move to Tyrolia. I'm just trying to get something out of Austria after all this time. I hope your move to Burgundy means you've finally decided to go for Paris.

Stan to Mike: Glad to get a different viewpoint; Polley thinks Brer Phil's bad opinion of me justifies his hatred of me. Maybe Polley and Brer Phil should form a sore losers' club.

Germany to England: I'm glad to hear you'll do your best. Remember I've seen you in action before; you trying is the best ace in the hole I could get. If you and your Polley Pal ever get together, I'll buy you a beer you can both cry in. You got one thing right: you need help-- but of a kind no one in this game can give you.

Germany to Turkey: Italy should be worrying about you, but he's still got England and France between me and his bony body.

Stan to Sean: If you meant what you said, then it was the first time. What did you "said" anyway? You NMRed (again) the previous turn, so you musta said it some time back.

Russia to Turkey: SEV is Russian! I hope you don't mind.

Phil to Mike: You are my top choice for the Mike Gonsalves "Sore Loser" Award.

Turkey to England: I realize you need some help, but I am not in position to give any. If you are working with France, encourage him to write.

Turkey to France: See note to England. You have forfeited any pressure on Italy by your failure to communicate.

Turkey to Germany: I hope you thought through your moves carefully. If E/F are cooperating, they could delay you this turn. Keep in touch.

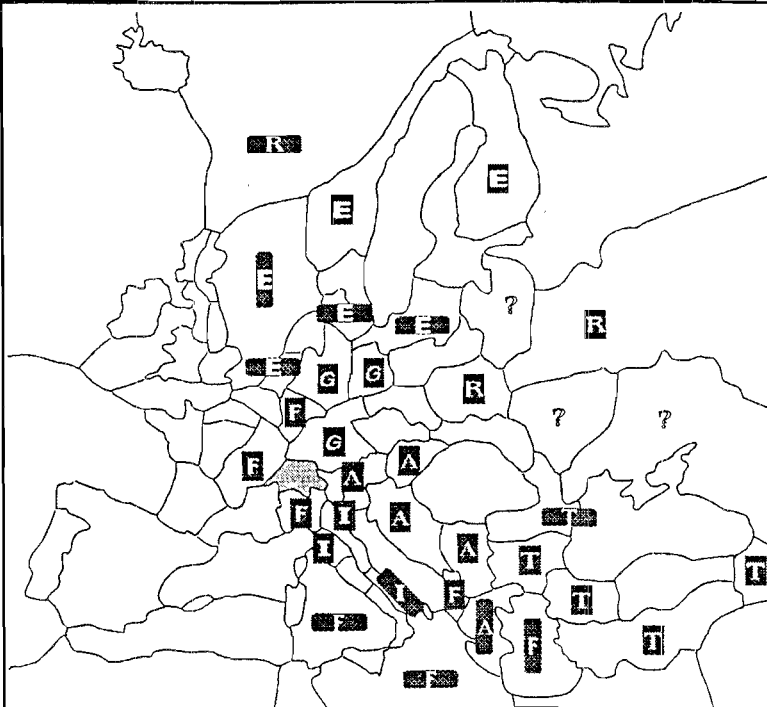
Turkey to Italy: I appreciate your continued communication and concern. I do tend to favor people who stay in touch, so you need not feel threatened while I deal with Austria.

Turkey to Russia: Yes, you are in an unusual position. Stay in there.

Atropos - A Game of Gunboat Diplomacy - Spring 1905

**F/E GET
IRON GRIP ON
GERMANY**

**SULTAN SEIZES
SMYRNA, SLIPS
IN MOSCOW**



Supply Centers

Austria: 6
VIE, TRI, BUD,
SER, GRE, VEN
England: 6
LON, LPL, EDI,
HOL, SWE, DEN
France: 7
PAR, MAR, BRE,
SPA, POR, BEL, SMY
Germany: 3
BER, KIE, MUN
Italy: 3
ROM, NAP, TUN
Russia: 3
STP, WAR, NWY
Turkey: 6
CON, ANK, BUL,
RUM, SEV, MOS

Austria:	A VIE-TYO, <u>A VEN sup A VIE-TYO</u> (annihilated), A TRI sup A VEN, A BUD-VIE, F GRE hold, A SER sup F GRE
England:	A YOR-NWY, F NTH con A YOR-NWY, A FIN sup A YOR-NWY, E HOL-KIE, F DEN sup F HOL-KIE, F BAL sup F HOL-KIE
France:	A SMY-ALB, F AEG con A SMY-ALB, F ION con A SMY-ALB, F TYS sup F ION, A MAR-PIE, A BUR-RUH, A PIC-BUR
Germany:	A KIE hold, A BER sup A KIE, A MUN sup A KIE
Italy:	A ROM-VEN, A TUS sup A ROM-VEN, F APU sup A ROM-VEN
Russia:	A STP-MOS, A WAR sup A STP-MOS, F NWY-NWG
Turkey:	A SEV-ARM, <u>A MOS sup EA FIN-STP</u> (retreat LVA, UKR, SEV?), F BLA-RUM, A BUL sup A CON, A CON sup A BUL, A ANK-SMY

GM to Europe: With only two Yes votes and one No vote each, the A/E/F/T and A/F/T conclusions to the game both fail to pass. Newly proposed are an A/E/T and an A/E/F/T. Please remember that your omission to vote will not keep a proposal from passing.

Trash-Talkin' Turkey to Greasy Little Frenchman: Better get out while you still can. And what's this "help with Turkey" crap you said to Russia? Isn't it obvious that he gave me what I now own?

England to France: "Forget the kissy-face"? Gladly! With your armies and my fleets, we can take out Germany in no time. Cut his support in Munich one time and the nut cracks. As for Russia, he can't move without letting me in.

England to Austria: I'm going to pump it, all right. I'm going to pump it up good!!

England to Turkey: Just because France is my pal doesn't mean we can't be pals, too, so long as our interests do not conflict. Remember, I've got dibs on St. Pete, but if you can get to Warsaw first, take it!

England to France: While we're doing musical references, I'll add, "We'd all love to see the plan...."

England to Germany: All quiet on the Western Front?

England to Austria: Unless *you* can get to Warsaw first-- then *you* take it. Can anybody here think of one good reason to let Russia live any longer?

England to France: "Let's show them how the game is played." Well, you've already taught me a couple of wrinkles to the game I thought I'd never see. Well played! And keep up the good work (against the enemy, of course, not against your best friend, i.e. England)!

England to Russia: G'wan-- take Sweden, why doncha? Make my day.

Italy to France: Not much choice but to trust you, so why not?

Italy to Turkey: France may not be helping me, but he's certainly not attacking me (yet). That makes him preferable to Austria.

Italy to Austria: Why do I keep getting into peninsular campaigns?

France to Turkey: That's all right-- I don't talk Turkish too well, either. (But I've been brushing up on Greek.) Sorry about those passport and visa problems-- you know

how it is when you're busy. But I'll leave now. But please leave me and my friend Italy to work out our most complicated relationship between ourselves.

France to Austria: "You just want to be on the side that's winning." -- B. Dylan

France to England: OK, but please remember this in the future. I had no quarrel with my friend Germany.

France to Germany: Sorry about this, but my friend England-- well, you know.

France to England: Hey, what's all the gobbledegook about Turkey getting a piece? As far as I can tell, he's moving in the wrong direction. Now if he throws in against Austria, he might have a talking point. Let's wait until we see whose side he's on before we go offering him anything. My friend Italy has done more for us than Turkey ever

thought of doing even on his best days.

France to Turkey: So I haven't done jack for my friend Italy, huh? There's only so much criticism a guy can take. The point is that you've lost about 1½ years in terms of movement, and if you've convoyed to ARM (please, dear God, let him do this for me, your humble servant!), even more. I've vacated your rotten territory-- now it's time for you to earn your way into an E/F/T instead of simply asking for it.

Austria to France: "You want it all, but you can't have it! (Yeah, yeah yeah)" -- Faith No More

Austria to Italy: "Slip sliding away, slip sliding away." -- P. Simon

Austria to England: "The radio is broken, it don't work no more." -- F. Zappa

Players in *Marie Galante*:

Austria	House Rules
England	Phil Reynolds , USF #4286, 4202 Fowler Avenue, Tampa FL 33620
France	John Schultz , Post Office Box 41-19390 ICH 308, Michigan City IN 46360
Germany	Stan Johnson , 10 Pine Street, Edison NJ 08817
Italy	George Inzer , 1755 Ashville Road, Montevallo AL 35115
Russia	Mike Gonsalves , 530 Treasure Lake, Dubois, Pennsylvania 15801
Turkey	Gene Gesner , 1308 Trailwood Lane, Longview TX 75605

Players in *Witch of Endor*:

Austria	Stan Johnson , 10 Pine Street, Edison NJ 08817
England	Gene Gesner , 1308 Trailwood Lane, Longview TX 75605
France	Peter Baker , 800 S. Washington St., Apt. A-106, Alexandria VA 22314
Germany	David Polley , 2504 Huntwick #1007, Austin TX 78741
Italy	David Schlosser , Post Office Box 8084, Eureka CA 95502
Russia	Mike Gonsalves , 530 Treasure Lake, Dubois PA 15801
Turkey	Michael Alterio , 909 Sycamore Street, Buffalo NY 14212

Not Very Famous Last Words

As usual, I have reached the end of my space for the issue and still have half a dozen loose ends which I'd like to have tied up.

I got a very interesting letter from Lon Atkins going into detail on why the "Diplomatic Chess" game I proposed last issue would usually turn out to be "a blind guessing game of close checks administered with the Queen." I'll print that letter next time, along with a few other publishable remarks piling up in the old "in" box. Nevertheless, I did get two players for Diplomatic Chess, so let's let them play.

L. Watt-Evans (White)

1. P-K4

D. Schlosser (Black)

1. P-Q4

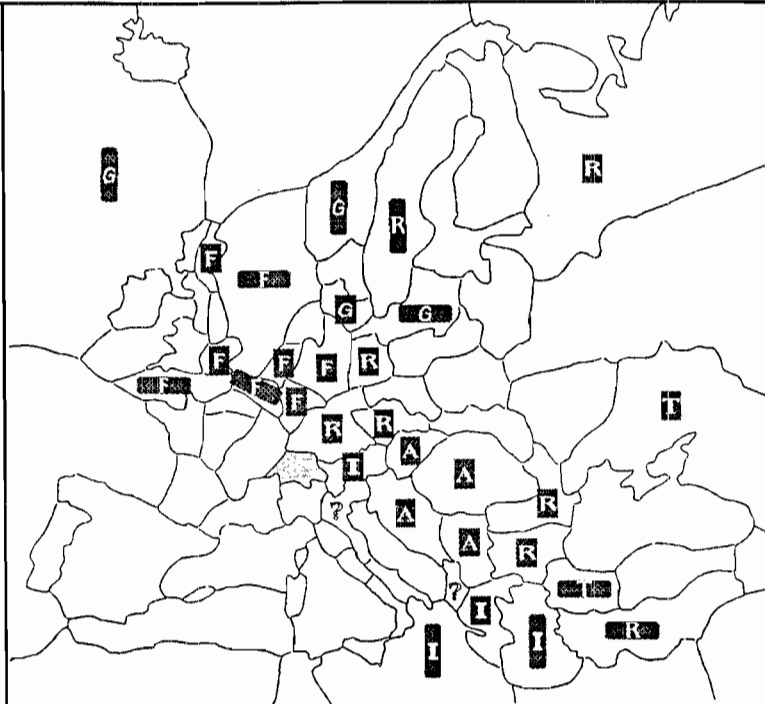
I'll also note in passing that "a blind guessing game" is exactly what Diplomacy boils down to, at its most fundamental tactical level, so perhaps that's the right flavor for "Diplomatic Chess," too.

If anyone else wants to dare this (possibly very silly) game, please feel free to submit an opening move along with a dollar, and I'll pair you up with another like-minded goof. Game diagrams will appear a little later.

Witch of Endor ~ A Game of Diplomacy ~ Summer/Fall 1904

**RICH GET
RICHER, POOR
PAY PIPER**

**ONE WITCH
WASTED, TURK
STILL STANDS**



Supply Centers

Austria: 4
BUD, VIE, SER,
-GRE, -BUL, +TRI
England: 0
-EDI
France: 10
PAR, MAR, BRE, BEL,
POR, SPA, LON, LPL,
+EDI, +KIE
Germany: 3
DEN, HOL, NWY,
-MUN, -KIE
Italy: 5
ROM, NAP, VEN,
TUN, -TRI, +GRE
Russia: 9
MOS, WAR, STP,
SWE, RUM, BER,
-SEV, -CON,
+SMY, +BUL, +MUN
Turkey: 3
ANK, -SMY, +CON, +SEV

Austria (-0 or 1): A ALB-TRI, A BUD sup A ALB-TRI, A VIE sup A ALB-TRI, F GRE hold (retreat ALB?), A SER sup F GRE

England (-1): F NTH-DEN (out!)

France (+2): A EDI hold, A LON hold, F YOR-NTH, F ENG sup F YOR-NTH, F BEL sup F YOR-NTH, A MUN-KIE, A HOL sup A MUN-KIE, A BUR-RUH

Germany (-1): Retreat A MUN-KIE. F NWG-NAO, F BAL-SWE, F NWY sup F BAL-SWE, A DEN sup F BAL-SWE, A KIE sup A DEN (annihilated)

Italy (+0 or 1): A TUN-GRE, F ION con A TUN-GRE, F AEG sup A TUN-GRE, A TRI-ALB (retreat VEN?), A VEN-TYO

Russia (+1): A BOH-VIE, A SIL-MUN, A BER sup A SIL-MUN, F CON-SMY, A BUL-SER, A SEV-RUM, F SWE-BAL, A STP-NWY

Turkey (+1): F ANK-CON, A ARM-SEV

GM to Europe: It's borderline, but I think a season separation is a good idea here. Just Autumn and Winter 1904 orders next time, please.

Austria to Turkey: If you are stupid enough to send your orders to someone you just lied to and tried to stab, you deserve whatever happens, especially if you are too lazy to send in back-up orders. By law, unsolicited mail becomes the property of the recipient.

Austria to Dave: Oh you don't like me boo hoo. I can't tell you how badly that makes me feel! Because it don't make me feel bad at all. You had a great position and through a combination of arrogance and stupidity you ruined it. I'd rather have a twit like you as an enemy than an ally. I am happy to say I played no small part in your destruction. How is it that a rotten guy like me got so many people to attack a wonderful person like you? Hey, we agree on one thing! France is a good person; he'll still be my friend even if he pounds you into dust, too! You and Brer Phil have a lot in common. He ruined a great German position, too, by messing with me. Since you obviously can't play worth a darn, I guess you have to take some satisfaction from personal attacks on your betters. I'll give you some advice. Don't tell so many lies that you can't keep them straight from one letter to the next. Also you ought to learn to read; my previous press that you attempted to discredit said, "I urged Russia to make peace." How you convoluted that to your statements is beyond comprehension. Perhaps you were bred like a pig or cow but I was not. In closing, Dave, remember it is only a "game," so don't go away mad, just go away.

Italy to Germany: Hold the fort and don't make assumptions.

Italy to GM: Sorry, I was looking at Germany's post-1904 centers. Got to adjust that crystal ball.

Italy to Austria: Let the games begin. This continent ain't big enough for the both of us.

Italy to Russia: ?

England to All: Unless there is a major surprise, the English fleet will be disbanded and the government in permanent exile. Looking to this end, the fleet hovers off the coast of Denmark hoping for some shore leave or the opportunity to visit Tivoli Gardens before being impressed into service with other navies. It's been interesting. I would say fun, but it's not much fun being jumped on by three at once. Good luck, Michael. You should outlast me by a couple of years. I'll keep an eye on the game for a while. So long.

Germany to GM: No Berlin, no Bavaria, no Prussia. Perhaps I can rewrite the song -- "Scandinavia, uber alles..." Sound good?

Germany to Russia: I hope this works, since I'm not 100% sure which way you'll go. With France refusing to call off the dogs (he thinks having an ally against Russia is "unworkable and unwise"?), I'm setting up for a move west.

Germany to France: If Russia will work with me, then good luck to you fighting solo against all of Europe. If he doesn't, then congratulations-- you've won the game.

Germany to Austria: So, who's that behind you with a stick? He's beaten Turkey and me with it long enough; I only hope that your turn's coming.

The 1992 Runestone Poll

ZINE POLL

You may rate any amateur postal or e-mail zine that you've read enough of to rate fairly. This means you've seen (or would have seen if not for delays) *at least* two issues since July 1, 1991. Only North American zines are eligible, but anyone may vote. Rate each zine from 0 (the worst) to 10 (the best)—no fractions, please. Do not rate your own zine. Blanks are for zines I forgot to list.

<input type="checkbox"/> Absolute!	<input type="checkbox"/> Disease City	<input type="checkbox"/> Pilot Light
<input type="checkbox"/> The Abyssinian Prince	<input type="checkbox"/> Disoriented Express	<input type="checkbox"/> Pirate
<input type="checkbox"/> Acropolis	<input type="checkbox"/> DOGS of War	<input type="checkbox"/> Pontevedria
<input type="checkbox"/> Against the Odds	<input type="checkbox"/> Down at the Mouth	<input type="checkbox"/> The Prince
<input type="checkbox"/> Alpha & Omega	<input type="checkbox"/> Electric Trains	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<input type="checkbox"/> Angst United	<input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Protocol	<input type="checkbox"/> Protozoan
<input type="checkbox"/> The Appalachian General	<input type="checkbox"/> Empire	<input type="checkbox"/> Quest for Power
<input type="checkbox"/> ark	<input type="checkbox"/> The Encounter	<input type="checkbox"/> Rails by Mail
<input type="checkbox"/> The Armchair Diplomat	<input type="checkbox"/> Excelsior	<input type="checkbox"/> Rambling Way
<input type="checkbox"/> The Assassin's Blade	<input type="checkbox"/> Eyewitness News	<input type="checkbox"/> Ramblings by Moonlight
<input type="checkbox"/> Autumn Madness	<input type="checkbox"/> fast trax	<input type="checkbox"/> Rebel
<input type="checkbox"/> Batyville Gazette	<input type="checkbox"/> Frueh's Folly	<input type="checkbox"/> So I Lied!
<input type="checkbox"/> Benzene	<input type="checkbox"/> The Gamer's Zine	<input type="checkbox"/> Son of Flip
<input type="checkbox"/> Blade Wars	<input type="checkbox"/> Get Them Dots Now!	<input type="checkbox"/> The Spindle
<input type="checkbox"/> Blind Ambition	<input type="checkbox"/> ¡GOL!	<input type="checkbox"/> Starwood
<input type="checkbox"/> Boast	<input type="checkbox"/> Gonzo Rails	<input type="checkbox"/> Suicide Squeeze
<input type="checkbox"/> Buckeye Rail Gazette	<input type="checkbox"/> Graustark	<input type="checkbox"/> The Tactful Assassin
<input type="checkbox"/> The Canadian Diplomat	<input type="checkbox"/> Heroes of Olympus	<input type="checkbox"/> Ter-ran
<input type="checkbox"/> Canyon	<input type="checkbox"/> The Home Office	<input type="checkbox"/> 36 Miles of Trouble
<input type="checkbox"/> Carolina Cmd & Cmnlry	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoodwink	<input type="checkbox"/> This Train...
<input type="checkbox"/> Caveat Emptor	<input type="checkbox"/> Kathy's Korner	<input type="checkbox"/> Touché
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheesecake	<input type="checkbox"/> Kempelen's Turk	<input type="checkbox"/> Twains
<input type="checkbox"/> The Coach Express	<input type="checkbox"/> Lemon Curry	<input type="checkbox"/> Upstart
<input type="checkbox"/> Comrades in Arms	<input type="checkbox"/> Loco Motives	<input type="checkbox"/> Vertigo
<input type="checkbox"/> Concordia	<input type="checkbox"/> Lord of Hosts	<input type="checkbox"/> War Fair
<input type="checkbox"/> The Continual Crisis	<input type="checkbox"/> Mad Dog	<input type="checkbox"/> Well, Martha...
<input type="checkbox"/> Costaguana	<input type="checkbox"/> Maelstrom	<input type="checkbox"/> Where's Kevin Tighe?
<input type="checkbox"/> Countermeasures	<input type="checkbox"/> Maniac's Paradise	<input type="checkbox"/> White House Mania
<input type="checkbox"/> Crimson Sky	<input type="checkbox"/> The Metadiplomat	<input type="checkbox"/> Why Me?
<input type="checkbox"/> The Curator	<input type="checkbox"/> Niccolo	<input type="checkbox"/> World Diplomacy
<input type="checkbox"/> Dipadeedoodah!	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flame	<input type="checkbox"/> Your Zine of Zines
<input type="checkbox"/> Diplodocus	<input type="checkbox"/> Orphan Son	<input type="checkbox"/> The Zine Register
<input type="checkbox"/> Diplomacy Digest	<input type="checkbox"/> ... Pedro ...	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Diplomacy Downs	<input type="checkbox"/> Penguin Dip	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Diplomacy World	<input type="checkbox"/> Pennant Madness	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Diplomag	<input type="checkbox"/> Perelandra	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Dippy	<input type="checkbox"/> Perestroika	<input type="checkbox"/>

ADVERTISEMENT

For the main lists (zines, subzines, and GMs) send 50 cents, two 29 cent U.S. stamps, or an issue of your zine in which you publish a ballot. Check here ☐ for lists in order of finish or here ☐ for lists in alphabetical order. For the Poll publication, send \$5.00 or more and check here ☐. Last year's publication was 101 pages long. It contained main lists, articles, statistical analysis, and lots more! Thanks for your donations; they really help.

SUBZINE POLL

A subzine is a regular section of a zine which is (a) edited by someone other than the zine editor(s), or (b) edited by the zine editor(s), but devoted to a specific hobby service. Any subzine of a North American zine is eligible. The other instructions are the same as those for the Zine Poll.

<input type="checkbox"/> analYSIS	<input type="checkbox"/> It's Me Again	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports Beat
<input type="checkbox"/> Asterion	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolis	<input type="checkbox"/> Standard Deviation
<input type="checkbox"/> Baseball Mania	<input type="checkbox"/> No Fac Number	<input type="checkbox"/> Subwithnoname
<input type="checkbox"/> The Blind Wars	<input type="checkbox"/> Notes from the Bunker	<input type="checkbox"/> The Unabashed Bo(t)
<input type="checkbox"/> CDO News	<input type="checkbox"/> Poll Talk	<input type="checkbox"/> The Unzine Voice
<input type="checkbox"/> Close Your Eyes...	<input type="checkbox"/> The Popular Front	<input type="checkbox"/> Water on the Knee
<input type="checkbox"/> DIDOES	<input type="checkbox"/> Reginald Maudling's Elbow	<input type="checkbox"/> You're the One
<input type="checkbox"/> The Eccentric Diplomat	<input type="checkbox"/> Ring Finger in Rear	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> The First Negotiator	<input type="checkbox"/> Seriously Folks	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Fred's Column	<input type="checkbox"/> Slappy's Sports Section	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> It's Good to be Right	<input type="checkbox"/> Sorcerers and Strategists	<input type="checkbox"/>

GM POLL

You may rate any GM under whom you played any postal or e-mail game since July 1, 1991 for long enough to judge him or her fairly. Only North American GMs are eligible, but anyone may vote. List GMs alphabetically by name (not zine). Rate each GM from 0 (the worst) to 10 (the best)—no fractions, please. GMs may not rate themselves.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Send this ballot to **Eric Erosius, 41 Hayward St., Milford, MA 01757**

Your ballot must arrive by June 30, 1992. Please vote early if you can.

Indicate one way in which you take part in the North American postal or e-mail gaming hobby (sub to zine XXX, play in game 1992YY, etc.) ☐

Signature ☐ (If I can't tell who you are or your ballot isn't signed, it may not be counted!)

Print your name neatly ☐

Check here ☐ if you do not want your name on the list of voters.

RUNESTONE POLL CONTEST

Guess the Zine Poll winner—the prize is a travel Diplomacy board with magnetic pieces. To be eligible you must vote in the Poll and correctly guess the winning zine; I will pick the contest winner at random from the set of eligible entrants. The names of the winner and any other eligible entrants will be published in the Poll publication.

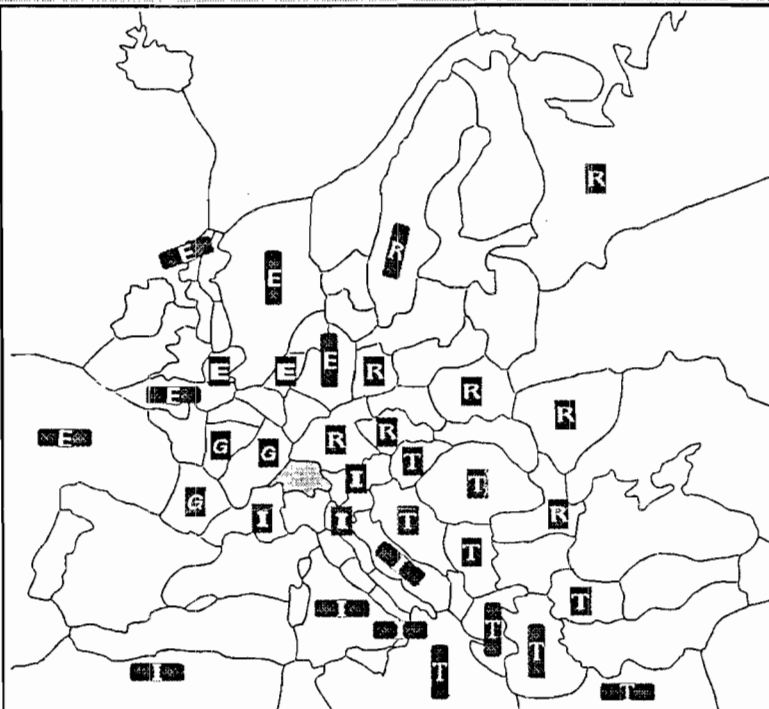
To enter, print your address neatly: ☐

The zine you think will win:

Indefatigable ~ Diplomacy 1990II ~ Winter 1906 ~ Final Position

**E/R/T TAKE
THIS ONE TO
THE BANK**

**POSTGAME
STATEMENTS
BELOW**



Supply Centers

England: 7
LON, LPL, EDI,
NWY, DEN,
KIE, HOL
Germany: 3
BEL, PAR, BRE
Italy: 7
ROM, NAP, VEN,
TUN, SPA,
POR, MAR
Russia: 8
MOS, STP, WAR,
SEV, SWE, BER,
RUM, MUN
Turkey: 9
CON, ANK, SMY,
VIE, BUL, BUD,
SER, GRE, TRI

Indefatigable was the game that kicked off the Diplomatic festivities for **Hoodwink**, its players being given the go-ahead in **Hoodwink #1** (September 28, 1990). An E/R/T tie was voted after Winter 1906 and announced in #19 (March 24, 1992). The game was unique in my experience of play-by-mail, in that not a single player was replaced during the entire course of the game. It was well played, both on the board and in the mail. Now let's hear from the players.

Supply Center Progress: 1901 1902 1903 1904 1905 1906

Austria:	5	5	4	2	0	0	Cecil Hutto
England:	5	4	5	5	6	7	David Schlosser
France:	3	2	1	0	0	0	Jason Bergmann
Germany:	5	6	7	7	5	3	Douglas Kent
Italy:	5	6	7	9	8	7	Bruce Reiff
Russia:	5	6	5	5	7	8	Gene Gesner
Turkey:	5	4	5	6	8	9	George Inzer

Postgame Statements

Douglas Kent (Germany): This game started out with a solid G/I alliance. Bruce and I had agreed to work together wherever possible, starting with an assault on France. We also invited England to join in. When it became clear that the communications between England and France had broken down, we dropped England from the team and pressed on. Russia was having a few problems, but everything was holding together.

The trouble started when Italy's growth became unchecked on all fronts. Bruce was picking up centers everywhere, and wasn't too "open" to the idea of letting me grow at nearly the same pace. The knife was obviously being prepared for me, so I had to take the initiative and get my thrusts in first. I managed to slow Bruce down, at least, but my mistreatment of England previously, coupled with an extremely timely stab by Russia, made it impossible to get anyone to work with me. I had to make a decision: turn and fight

the new E/R alliance, or make eliminating Italy my first priority. Since Bruce had kind of dropped from sight at this point, I decided to play my hand and leave my flank open. England and Russia seemed willing to let me mess with Italy and survive, as long as my power was held in check.

The E/R/T was really the best way to end the game. No one (especially me) was willing to give Italy a piece of a draw, I didn't deserve one either, and Turkey's help against Italy had been enough to endear him to the E/R brotherhood. Congrats to the winners—you made the right move at the right time. If you had waited a season before going on the offensive, all would have been different. I *would* have liked to get a G/R going, but I no longer had enough clout to make Gene trust me, so he did the right thing. As for you, Bruce, sorry things didn't work out. If you had been a bit less greedy when it came to "splitting the spoils," we might have made a go of it, but then again two major factors were against us: 1) We jumped into the lead too early, alerting everyone to how dangerous

we were; and 2) With your communications getting fainter and fainter, it wouldn't have been easy to work together in a "tight" fashion. Oh well, can't win 'em all!

Jason Bergmann (France): I decided that I wanted to start out doing something different--- I wanted an F/G move of F ENG sup F HOL-NTH in Fall 1901. Because I'd never done it before, Douglas Kent had other ideas, and I was faced with hostile armies in Burgundy and Piedmont after Spring 1901.

Realizing the end was inevitable, I decided to try to help Bruce Reiff get most of my centers and have Doug get nuttin'. That didn't work either, 'cause Bruce took some and allowed Doug to take others. Well, it's good to see that neither of them was in the draw.

I'd have probably done better if I'd written more. Nothing new there.

Cecil Hutto (Austria): I've become increasingly convinced that I simply don't know how to play this game.

George Inzer (Turkey): First, I'd like to congratulate my allies, Gene Gesner in Russia and Dave Schlosser in England. Well played. If I had thought I could split you up, I might have played on. But I respected your alliance too much to try it.

Next my sincerest best wishes and condolences to survivors Bruce Reiff in Italy and Doug Kent in Germany. You were worthy opponents and we really couldn't have done it without you.

This has been one very enjoyable game for me, especially since I thought I was a goner for a while there.

Initially I allied with Cecil Hutto (Austria) to attack Russia. However, at a critical moment, I miswrote some orders and supported Budapest instead of Vienna to Galicia. I was visiting Stven right at the deadline for those moves and I had forgotten to bring Cecil's letter requesting the support. So I looked at the board and Budapest looked more logical than Vienna, so I guessed. And I guessed wrong. I don't think Cecil ever trusted me very much in the first place, and this was all it took. He never gave me a chance to make amends. He threw all his support to Italy (with whom he'd allied all along, I suspect) and Russia.

I figured my only chance once I lost Rumania was to retreat to Galicia and remove a unit from my home front and hope that one of Cecil's new friends would crack or that I could get Germany to help me. At that point in the game, Italy and Germany were sopping up France and they looked like sure winners with the disarray in the East.

Bruce came to my rescue and I guess I managed to keep Gene neutral. He and Dave had their hands full with Germany.

So Bruce and I proceeded to carve up Austria. At this point Italy was the preeminent power on the board and at about this time received a stab from Germany. If Germany and Italy had stuck together, it's hard to see how they could lose. Luckily, one or both of them (I don't know which or who started) decided Europe wasn't big enough for both of them.

Also, I knew that Bruce likes to play for the win, not a draw--- a trait I admire, by the way, and share to a certain extent. So I decided even before Austria was completely finished to go after Italy. I guess Bruce was distracted by real life or something, because the stab worked.

By this time, Gene and I had worked out a fair division of the spoils and this left us a free hand to take care of business.

Which brings us to the endgame. I could see that the going would be very tough against Italy from here on out. Meanwhile, England and Russia were making short work against Germany and Italy's western flank was wide open to an English attack. So my choice came down to stabbing Russia or voting for the draw. I

sounded Dave out vaguely on the subject and he seemed more inclined to the draw than the stab. Since I knew I couldn't do it without English help--- and that didn't seem too likely--- I finally decided on the 3-way E/R/T.

I enjoyed this game so much that I was glad to end it on a high note.

My only regret about this game was that apparently I got too personal in the press and I may have hurt Cecil's feelings or something. To me, Diplomacy press is just that, and should never be taken personally. I was just trying to shake things up to get an ally. If I offended anyone, especially you, Cecil, I apologize. No offense was intended and I'm sorry if offense was taken.

David Schlosser (England): In looking back at the game, I see one major mistake I made and 3½ turning points. My error was early on, in doing half-assed attacks on each of my neighbors while trying to pick a different one as ally. The key points, for me, were:

1) My getting kicked out of STP allowed me to rebuild a home unit and stave off the pressure I was under. It also gave me a chance to reopen negotiations with Gene--- who proved a staunch and dependable ally. Without the coordinated pressure we were able to bring on Germany, who knows what would have happened?

2) Then there was the premature stab by Germany at his ally, Italy. At that time, the G/I combination had the most centers, and with France on the ropes (or already gone), I'd have been spending the next years just trying to hold the island. But with that break-up, Germany was in the position of being fought on all sides. I don't know if he thought he had an ally up his sleeve or just figured his position was too good. Either way it didn't work well for him.

3) And then there was Turkey's mugging of Italy, knocking some dents into the then-power of the map, again taking pressure off the West and allowing the third segment of a European encirclement to take shape.

I think the most interesting part of the outcome is that Turkey and England were on the ropes early, but managed to get enough support to keep afloat and were able to fight back into strong positions at the end. All told, a lot of fun.

Bruce Reiff (Italy): Stven asked if I'd write how I lost this game. Well, a total lack of communication did it. If I would have kept up with the game, I'm sure I could have won, but hey, that's an if. Congrats to Gene and George. You played good games. To David, you're lucky they included you. To Dougie, we dropped the ball on this one, bud. Thanks, Stven.

Stven Carlberg (GM): After I let Bruce Reiff talk me into starting a Diplomacy zine, I decided that the way to get rolling was to put together seven players for a really good game that would be the cornerstone of the zine. This worked so well that I would now like to recommend this method to any aspiring GM. Instead of publishing a zine and saying in it that you're *looking* for players, find your players first, and start a game in your first issue.

Early on, it seemed that Germany and Italy, allied against recent World DipCon champion Jason Bergmann in France, were going to win in a romp. They did finish off France, but not without alerting the rest of the board to the potential of the G/I. Bruce Reiff's falling nearly *incommunicado* during this crucial time in the game helped neither himself nor his ally. Having worked so hard to organize the counteralliance, England, Russia, and Turkey were satisfied to take a three-way rather than reorganize to fight amongst themselves at the end. This did seem to be the fitting conclusion to this very interesting game.

The Dread Letter Office

Scattergories!

Once again it's time for the results of the Scattergories match-up! Thanks for playing to: Andrew York, Stan Johnson, Matt Miller, Lawrence Watt-Evans, David Hood, Lon Atkins, Philip Sasse, Michael Alterio, and David Schlosser. Nice work, everybody!

Here are the responses you gave in the various categories. Answers which were duplicated and thus failed to score a point are marked with an asterisk:

Annual Rituals: lambing, Law Day, Lupercalia, Lent*, lawn seeding, Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, Labor Day Parade, Lag b'Omer

People on TV in the 1990's: Art Linkletter, K.D. Laing, Jay Leno, Lois (of Sharon, Lois & Bram's Elephant Show on Nickelodeon), Larry King, Christian Laettner, Lynn Russell, David Lynch, Jim Lehrer, Lech Walesa

Candy: lemon drop*, licorice*, lollipop*, lime jawbreaker

Famous tennis players: Rod Laver*, Ivan Lendl*, John Lloyd, Henri Leconte, Chris Evert Lloyd*

Black and white movies: The Lady Vanishes, The Lost World (1925), The Lost Battalion, The Last Outpost, The Last Picture Show, Lifeboat

United Nations members: Luxembourg, Lesotho*, Laos*, Lichtenstein, Libya, Liberia*

Famous country and/or western singers: Loretta Lynn*, Lester Flatt, Larry Gatlin, Keith Lyle, Lacy J. Dalton, Lyle Lovett, Frankie Laine

Vehicles: lunar excursion module*, lunar lander* (same as L.E.M.), lunar rover, LaSalle, lorry* (the most duplicated answer of this round), Lear jet, Lumina, luge

Things made of wood: lattice, limb (of a tree), ladle*, leg*, limberjack (Appalachian doll), lintel, larch, Lincoln Logs

Items taken by people to the beach: lunch*, lotion*, life preserver, lemonade, longboard, lei, Lite Beer

Characters in Superman stories: Lori Lemaris*, Lara*, Lex Luthor*, Lois Lane, Lor-El

Presidents: Lyndon Johnson*, Lee Iacocca, Richard Henry Lee (of Continental Congress), Abraham Lincoln, Lon Atkins (of SFPA), Levy Eshkol (of Israel)

Notes on incorrect answers: *Lawrence of Arabia* was not in black and white. It's Tanya-- not Lana-- Tucker, who

is a famous country singer. And since Lois Lane and Lana Lang are both correct answers to "characters in Superman stories," I couldn't take "Lana Lane" for either one.

And our winner this issue is..... (a drum roll, please!)

Lon Atkins
with 10 unduplicated answers!

Lon threatens to be as dangerous a repeat winner in this game as Lawrence Watt-Evans has been at Facts in Five! Lon seems to have a flair for finding his way somewhere off the beaten track, and only "Laos" and "lorry" kept him from a perfect score.

Let's give it another try, though, now that all we know how tough the competition is going to be, eh?

Here follows a brief recap of the rules of the game. You are allowed to submit only *one* answer per category. To score a point, of course, you must register an answer which is not given by any other player.

Unlike most games of this type, when the category calls for a person, your Scattergories answer may use either the first *or* last name. Answers naming the same person or thing, even if using different words, are regarded as identical for scoring purposes. (Answers using the same words to name different things are also regarded as identical.) You may not give the same answer in more than one category.

As usual in **Hoodwink** word trivia, no research is allowed (answers must come off the top of your head) and rulings of the GM are final. And a free issue of **Hoodwink** is the prize for the winner!

Your letter this time is **R**. Your categories are:

NFL quarterbacks
Cities in South America
Games played with dice
Edible fruits
Oscar-winning actresses
Famous Frenchmen
Cars named for animals
Units of measurement
Characters in Hanna-Barbera cartoons
Palindromes
Losing U.S. Presidential candidates
Farm animals

Good luck finding the creases, and remember, creativity will pay! But the amusing irony of the game is that plain vanilla answers (like Abraham Lincoln) may sneak in and score a point when *everybody* tries to get fancy, and then again, the weirdest answers can match up! Hey, just for fun, I'll see about getting Ward Batty to bring his copy of Scattergories for some in-person competition at DixieCon! See ya there!

Yer Blues #40

Stven Carlberg for ALPS in Feb. 1992

Here they are again, my Top Ten Albums of the moment.

1. The Birth of Soul – Ray Charles
2. 5,000,000* – Dread Zeppelin
3. Lulu – Trip Shakespeare
4. Best of Bossa Nova (Verve anthology)
5. Astoria, A Portrait of the Artist – Tony Bennett
6. British Invasion, Vol. 4 (Rhino anthology)
7. If There Was a Way – Dwight Yoakam
8. Led Zeppelin II – Led Zeppelin
9. Interiors – Rosanne Cash
10. Nilsson Schmilsson – Harry Nilsson

This is nothing more nor less than a list of what I've been listening to lately, with priority given to the stuff that's been sticking in my head or my CD player the most.

The Ray Charles album at the top of the list is a 3-CD set of what, for me, is the prime of all prime Ray Charles music. It really grabbed my attention the first time I was listening to it with a little song called "Early in the Morning," the only version of which I had ever previously heard being Harry Nilsson's. Imagine how amazed I was to hear Ray Charles doing a kind of rambling blues tune practically note for note from the Harry Nilsson cut I knew so well! Of course it was Harry who copied Ray's blues, not the other way around, but I have no trouble enjoying both versions tremendously.

Does anybody out there happen to know if Ray's version is the original recording of this song?

Now for a couple of stray comments inspired by my perusal of the last ALPS mailing.

To David Axler and Tom Nash: First, David, you should be ashamed of yourself for not knowing right off the bat who the Moondogs were!

To answer both your queries, yes, George and I are both out of SFPA, after so much encouragement for you two to get involved. What happened, you asked? Well, basically, George and I agree that it was just a failure of our interest in writing mailing comments. You can observe that same force at work on my zines in ALPS these days. ALPS, having a specific subject at its focus which does not necessarily demand mailing comments as its primary means of communications, has not lost me as SFPA and every

other apa has done. Nevertheless, I think ALPS loses a lot of its fun when mailing comments are not a happening part of the scene, and I hope to see a resurgence for us in that quarter before too long.

Cons, Tom, you asked about. Yes, Virginia, there is a DeepSouthCon, and this year it is in Atlanta, early in May. Write for details if you're interested. And remember how I've told you two years in a row that you should hold your annual house party on some weekend other than Labor Day, because Labor Day is WorldCon weekend? True again this year, and true in spades, because this year's WorldCon is in Orlando, Florida, a city well within your cruising radius. That's the biggie of the year for every science fiction fan, as well as being the con where you're most likely to meet other ALPSters.

Kirk Pennak: I did a wonderful doubletake when I read this line of yours: "Enough preamble. Let me set the stage." Welcome to the Dept. of Redundancies Dept.!

Joel Zakem: I agree with you about Richard Thompson's songs working so well in the solo acoustic setting. In fact, I like his live performances much more than his albums, where that darned band keeps getting in the way.

David Bratman: When people ask of vegetarians whether they'll eat shrimp, perhaps a more polite answer would be an informative: "No, I'm a *strict* vegetarian. No animal flesh whatsoever." After all, it is not the fault of the curious inquirer that some people styling themselves vegetarians do eat seafood or white meat. And I think a polite answer is generally to be preferred to a "withering" one.

I do so *very much* agree with your comments on 1967 and 1991 differing inherently by a mere two digits. People who think we lost the right to think creatively when we stopped being teenagers are dumb defeatists! Conversely, people who think *teenagers* lost the ability to think creatively when we stopped being *them* are smug snobs! And good music does not *have* to be perched precariously on the cutting edge of new concept to be good music! Yow! Are these fighting words, or what?

Jeff Smith: Agree with you entirely about Harry Connick! Crooners I like— but not this one or his music.

That's all for now! See you next mailing, I betcha!

Yer Blues #41

Stven Carlberg for ALPS in April 1992

Here they are again, my Top Ten Albums of the moment.

1. World Outside – Psychedelic Furs
2. Last of the True Believers – Nanci Griffith
3. Rubber Soul – The Beatles
4. Beatles VI – The Beatles
5. Berlin – Tony Bennett
6. Girlfriend – Matthew Sweet
7. Something Else – The Kinks
8. Shake Some Action – The Flamin' Groovies
9. Polka Dots and Moonbeams – Paul Desmond
10. Hillbilly Deluxe – Dwight Yoakam

This is nothing more nor less than a list of what I've been listening to lately, with better numbers attached to the stuff that's been running most often in my head and my various other playback devices.

World Outside is the new Psychedelic Furs album, and contains my favorite new song of the last couple of months, "Until She Comes Again." I've been playing this one over and over.

Something Else is the Kinks album with "Waterloo Sunset" and "David Watts," the first Kinks album where the sheer rock style of their early days is set aside for something else. (*Village Green Preservation Society*, *Arthur*, etc., would follow.) I picked up a copy on CD and have been enjoying it quite a bit.

I bought a tape player for my car last month, and promptly began making tapes for my aural vehicular enhancement. One little project which I'd been contemplating for some time was getting the American versions of some Beatles albums onto tape so that I can listen to them in what I remember as the "right" order.

Actually, in putting *Beatles VI* and *Yesterday and Today* down on tape, I found that there were a couple of minor programming changes I could not resist making. (Those notorious American record executives aren't the only ones who'll meddle with magic, eh?) *Beatles VI* is burdened with a couple of Larry Williams songs, "Bad Boy" and "Dizzy Miss Lizzie," which I really don't need to hear again more than once or twice a year. But for programming purposes there should still be numbers there that rock, right? So I replaced them with "I'm Down" (the flip side of the "Help" single, which manages not to appear on any

American album), and "Leave My Kitten Alone," the Turner-McDougal tune which, so they say, was about to be released as a single before John Lennon's untimely death put an end to that Capitol marketing scheme.

The American version of *Rubber Soul* is so thoroughly just right, in my opinion, and so firmly rooted in my memory, that my tape follows *its* sequence *exactly*.

As for *Yesterday and Today*, the way the lush strings of "Yesterday" are followed by the brash Ringobilly of "Act Naturally" has irritated me since 1967. So on my tape, I leave a few seconds of silence after "Yesterday" and then go to "And Your Bird Can Sing," as if I'd picked up the needle and turned the record over.

Yes, I'll still buy CD copies of all the American albums up to *Revolver* if they ever become available.

And now for a few stray comments on a few stray comments made in the last mailing.

David Axler: There are two different movies here being recalled under the sobriquet "The Forbidden Zone." The one with Molly Ringwald and Peter Strauss is fully entitled *Spacehunter: Adventures in the Forbidden Zone*.

If you'll give *Rhythm of the Saints* a few more listens, you might very well change your mind about its being "nothing special." It's certainly special in the sense of there being nothing else like it, and my own personal opinion of its greatness has grown over repeated listenings to the point that I rank it just short of *Graceland*.

Tom Nash: You ask, "What's the feminine of crooner?" I think, maybe, *chanteuse*?

Kay White: Surely this is not particularly mysterious. What do *you* think I meant by "a Cher haircut"? What would you think I meant by "a Beatle haircut"?

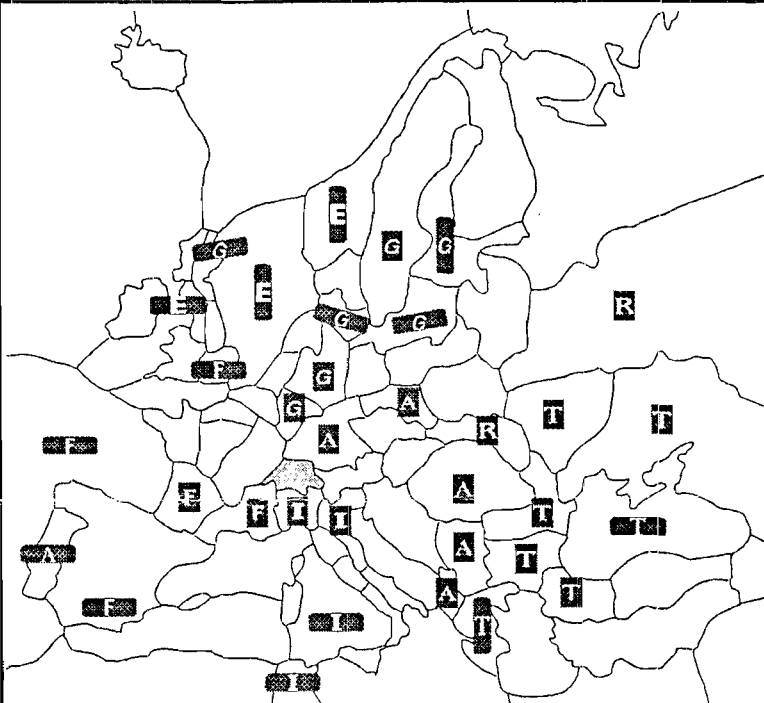
Claudio Omar Nogueurol: No, I haven't tried Greg Bear's *Blood Music*. I read a Greg Bear book once and found it so dreadful that I doubt I'll ever read another.

The B-52's came first, not Talking Heads. Even with David Byrne having produced their EP *Mesopotamia*, there is, to my ear, a clear distinction between the two groups and the paths they have followed. The B-52's have that dissonance thing happening, you know?

Hotspur ~ Gunboat Diplomacy ~ Autumn/Winter 1907

**SCOTLAND
STORMED BY
FLEEING HUNS**

**NEW RECORD
SET FOR PAGES
OF PRESS**



Supply Centers

Austria: 6
BUD, TRI, VIE, SER,
+POR, +MUN, -RUM
England: 3
LPL, NWY, STP,
-LON, -EDI
France: 5
PAR, BRE, MAR,
SPA, +LON, -POR
Germany: 7
BER, KIE, HOL,
DEN, BEL, SWE,
-MUN, +EDI
Italy: 4
ROM, NAP, VEN, TUN
Russia: 2
MOS, WAR
Turkey: 7
CON, ANK, SMY, BUL,
SEV, GRE, +RUM

Austria:	Build A BUD
England:	Retreat A SWE OTB. Remove F SKA
France:	No adjustments
Germany:	Retreat A MUN-RUH, F NTH-EDI. <u>Build A BER</u> (no build)
Italy:	No adjustments
Russia:	No adjustments
Turkey:	Build A CON

GM to Europe: An A/F/G/I/T draw has been proposed. Please vote with your Spring 1908 orders. NVR=NO.

England to France: With Austria on the move, don't you think you and I could cut a new deal?

Italy to Austria: Since you've already made it into Munich and I have declared a ceasefire on my French frontier, I respectfully decline your offer of helping me versus France.

Instead, I offer to aid you against Turkey. Would a fleet in the Ionian Sea be of service to you?

Vatican City to Vienna: His Holiness is used to wooden icons and occasionally needs a little empathetic counseling to help make it through the night. So His Holiness bids 2,000,000 lira for sci-foxy bambina Marina Sirtis.

Italy to France: I can honor a DMZ of Western Med, Gulf of Lyon, *and* Piedmont. I have already left the former and will withdraw from the Piedmont in the Spring. I'll hold up my end of the bargain.

P.S. Did you *have* to tell my new Austrian friend of all my peccadillos from the past? I'm like Jerry Brown. I reinvent myself every two years.

Austria to England: What glaring incompetence!! I annoy France and Germany to help you and you succeed in getting plowed anyway. Well, you're all alone now! Bye!

Austria to Germany: You and France would already have this one in the can if I hadn't fooled around for so long.

Since I can still determine whom to delay, F/G or T, I make you an offer: Take no more than Munich from me and I stand versus Turkey. Encroach on Austrian soil and Turkey gains a puppet.

Austria to France: Read the A to G press. Also, any cries of "foul" from Italy re: you, and Turkey gets a puppet.

Austria to Italy: Now that you and France are pals, let's slam into Turkey. Please move into the Ionian. Also, indicate during your move whether or not you wish support of a move/Apulia convoy into Greece or if you're moving further east.

Austria to Russia: Please allow me to apprentice myself to your anti-Turkish work force. Move Galicia to Warsaw, or better yet, to Ukraine with support from Moscow. In Fall 1908 I'll use the Austrian now in Silesia to ensure you own Warsaw. Anyway, let me know what help *you* need following *your* Spring 1908 moves.

Austria to Turkey: Come, Father, let us embrace. I am for your demise, brazen thief. You could at least be as blatant in word as deed. "Gee, Austria, I didn't *mean* to slurp two of your centers." HAH!! "Gee, Austria, I didn't move into Budapest, *even though* it was open." Well, you should have, bonehead, 'cause now, unless they're causing my death, F/G/I/R are going to see me oppose your every move; stifle your every breath; shadow your every turn; boot your every

behind; and essentially eliminate your every chance of a win in this game. All this because of your "Oooh, didn't-mean-to-screw-my-only-ally, tee-hee," innocent-man attitude. You may as well start wishing you'd played it straight and start sending in new game fees. This one is all but over for you.

Austria to Non-Turkish Empire: Upcoming Spring 1908 moves: F POR hold. A MUN-BOH. A SIL-GAL. Armies ALB, SER, BUD? Well, let's let the Turk guess, hm?

Russia to Austria: O, my stars, an ally! Whatever you want, you got.

Russia to Turkey: Hear that, Turkey? You've had it now. When we get through with you, you'll be... you'll be... I know not what, but we shall do such things! And no, I won't kiss your cruddy foot.

Russia to Italy: You ask if I'm interested? Yes, I am. I don't have much left, but whatever good it will do the anti-Turk alliance, it will do.

Turkey to Austria: I guess I was insane. I told you I wanted to be friends; I figured maybe a new player was a chance to get back on track. Your predecessor... well, it's too late now. You've made a big show of declaring war on me, so I suppose I'll have to respond. In a way, it makes it much easier for me, since I don't have to worry about moving around you to get at someone else. It's too bad.

Turkey to Russia: If you're serious about playing the puppet... but you made it contingent on Austria not moving against me, so I suppose you're not. Oh, well.

Turkey to France: Hey, I'd be glad to be friendly. Right now, Austria seems to be my major opponent and our mutual enemy; anything you could do to damage him would be welcome. Knocking the fleet out of Portugal, while of benefit to you, is a zero-sum matter for me; suit yourself on that.

Turkey to England: You're being quiet over there. I hope your army went to Finland for a move to St. Pete.

Turkey to Germany: So I undoubtedly attacked your buddy Austria? Try again; Austria attacked *both* of us, and I did *not* attack him. My protestations were sincere. I mean, go back and look at the earlier moves-- I couldn't support my attacks on Russia because Austria was in every space that could have supported those attacks, and Austria was neither supporting me nor attacking Russia himself. Once I got past that roadblock, which involved taking two Austrian centers (one of them, Rumania, was originally intended to be temporary, but Austria didn't move back in when I left it open), I stopped attacking Austria. For all the good it did me. I hope you'll reconsider your negative attitude; I think an F/G/I/T would be quite a good idea.

Turkey to Italy: If you're really open to suggestions, how about joining an attack on Austria? You've got to go somewhere, and it looks like an easier choice than France. Austria's antagonized the two largest (for the moment) powers on the board, Germany and myself; wouldn't you like a share of the loot? Also, another suggestion: I get nervous with all this press about "the Eastern Witch," so I'd appreciate it if we could leave the Ionian demilitarized.

France to Austria: Thanks loads, pal (not that the move to POR was a surprise). I can't help thinking that there are way

too many T's piling up in the Balkans for you to feel very secure in your plans to help Italy in "the Burgundy backdoor to France." Break off the venture west and we can remain friends (especially if you throw Michelle Pfeiffer and Amanda Donohoe into the offer).

France to Germany: Let's drive this guy out! I'd like to move to BUR to support you back into MUN-- tell me where you want to move from. I assume you grabbed EDI-- that's fine, although for my own security, I'll probably want to take Belgium before this is all over while you're cleaning out Scandinavia. Just wanted to give you warning so you wouldn't think I was turning on you-- I think we make a good team.

France to Italy: Looks like a done deal-- though I'm staying in MAR until you vacate the Piedmont. Good luck in your eastern venture!

France to Turkey: Fair to partly cloudy, with a massive storm front moving in from the East. You're not a rainmaker, are you?

Berlin to Board: A stagnant seven-center power in the *center* of the board, who is being forced to fight a defensive war on one front, and to confront a stubborn England on the other, is much less of a threat to the rest of you than a growing seven-center power in the *corner*, on the offensive against an impotent Russia on the one hand and an impudent Austria on the other. Unless we are willing to confront the Turkish threat directly, we may as well vote the concession.

Berlin to Paris: I'm glad to see that we are on the same wavelength. While I temporarily lead you in terms of supply centers, remember that I am under heavy attack from the apparently *insane* Austrian potentate. You should also pick up Portugal this spring, releasing your fleets for further duty in the fall. I'll keep on in Scandinavia-- my specific moves depend heavily on which units England disbands. I will likely be unable to offer much in the way of assistance in the coming turn(s), but if you have made proposals and I am able to offer the aid, I will do so. Keep me informed.

Berlin to Paris: I am concerned by the prospect of an Austrian move (or retreat) from Munich to Burgundy. What about doing a mutual standoff over Burgundy with the two armies (A GAS-BUR, A MAR-BUR)? You might think this is a waste of your time, but consider that your two southern fleets will be busy with retaking Portugal and will not be available for an English Channel convoy until at least next spring-- and I doubt you'll risk moving out of London to set up same for this fall. Obviously your units are yours to order as you see fit, but if you've nothing else exciting to do with the two armies, the mutual standoff protects both of us, while maintaining our DMZ in Burgundy. Another suggestion: The Turkish threat forces you to begin preparing, both diplomatically and logistically, for a move to the Med. My guess is that Italy will be hard pressed to hold back the Turk. One or two French fleets in WME/TYS in support of Italian units further east could make the difference between our salvaging the Western world, or *chaos*.

Berlin to Paris: Me... good? Very good? Sir, I'm blushing! No matter how *true* your statement, it can only excite envy in those persons to my southeast who are substantially less well endowed in the grey-matter department. Perhaps

in the future this sort of blatant glad-handing could be better left to the private channel we've been able to establish of late.

Berlin to GM: Hahaha, just a joke, Stvey old bean!

Berlin to Russia: I hope my press of a couple of issues ago didn't stop you from trying for St. Pete last turn-- it would have been tragic if you had failed to get a build (and England another disband) due to my clumsy negotiations. Assuming England disbands A FIN (pretty good bet, I think), you might give St. Pete a shot this spring. I will *not* be trying for it, but I *might* lend you support from F GBO. Keep trying for it-- as our neutral GM pointed out in last issue's headline, Moscow may well be forfeit. Perhaps it's time to return the seat of Romanov power to its traditional location. Also, given Austria's terrible thirst for dots, no matter what the consequence, Warsaw may not last much longer either.

Berlin to London, er, Edinburgh, um, I mean Liverpool: Talk about shooting oneself in the foot! You're down two, solely as a result of your attack on the North Sea. Oh well, thanks-- I can sure use the unit against that Austrian guy.

Berlin to Rome: Glad to see your turn to the east-- this strikes me as your most sensible course. Given Austria's wholesale abandonment of strategy and his whacko desire to initiate and now fight a two-front war, Trieste and other points in Austrian territory are now wide open. Your powerful armies are poised to strike and have little else to do. The Berlin newspapers call every day for Italy to enter the war against the treacherous and vile Austrian Hegemony. Given Turkish power and Austrian weakness, Austrian dots will be changing their spots at an accelerating pace. Don't be left behind-- get in there and grab all you can! You need to build up your force in order to beat back the Turk, and Austria is really the only source of economic vitality for you at this point. Hope I make myself perfectly clear.

Berlin to Vienna: I have saved this correspondence til next to last, since the state of our relations is so critical to our mutual well-being. *We must have peace!* We can hang together or surely we will hang separately.

Austrian occupation of German territory and German dots cannot be countenanced, not now, not in the future. For any hope of normal relations, you must leave my countrymen in peace, now, immediately, yesterday, soonest, pronto. As you yourself have noted, you have a war to fight in the Balkans, a war that you must fight with all the strength and power you are able to muster, or it will consume you and all you hold dear in a hellfire of Turkish wrath and damnation. For myself, I also have a war to fight-- with the seat of all perfidy in the modern world, Albion. Your invasion of my nation (the apparent combined plot of rogue elements in your armed forces *and* the organizers of the Miss Austria Beauty Pageant) is nothing more than a sideshow for both our countries. But it threatens to become the *central* event for us "countries of the center." We must put a stop to it, and now, before our countries come crashing down in a mutual orgy of self-immolation. The barbarous Turk can be the only possible beneficiary of continued Austro-German hostility.

My terms: I will move to retake Munich in the spring. I expect you either to withdraw, or to stand without support

and disband instead of retreat. A SIL must likewise leave German territory. As time and circumstances permit, the demilitarized zone we have until so recently enjoyed in Tyrolia-Bohemia-Silesia should be reestablished. You will turn your forces away from aggression against the German Reich and tend to your gardens in the Balkans. This may unfortunately mean your economic power and military might will be lessened temporarily, yet your nation will in the end be strengthened. For as long as the aggressive, hungry, powerful, and *growing* Ottoman Empire is knocking on your Balkan backdoor, you will not know true peace, and in fact will witness firsthand the awful degradation of being forced to fight a defensive war on your precious home soil (a degradation, I would point out, that *you* forced upon the peaceful and friendly people of Germany).

For my part, should you withdraw promptly and cleanly from Germany and cease your attacks upon my citizens and their cities, I pledge to respect the heretofore mentioned DMZ and to guarantee Austrian independence and integrity. Germany will provide any necessary support for Austria in its struggle with the Turk, subject to negotiations and the exigencies of the immediate situation. We will abandon any dreams of *Anschluss* and the incorporation of Germanic Austria into a "Greater Germany" (though to be fair it has only been as a result of your aggressive and foolhardy actions that politicians advocating these extreme measures have been allowed to function in our tightly controlled political system). In addition, Austrian withdrawal will lead to a diminution and eventual cessation of German propaganda efforts aimed at isolating and destabilizing the present Austrian regime. And, perhaps most importantly, Germany will agree to withdraw its protests at the selection of Miss Hildegard Barn-Boozle as "Miss Germanic Europe" and will in fact support her bid to become overall winner of the "Miss Europa" pageant.

This embarrassing war between our two kindred nations must end... *now*. The people of Germany look for calm rationality in the present leaders of Austria, and hope and trust that, even at this eleventh hour, a way can be found to prevent the unleashing of a bloody and destructive *total war* between our nations. There is very little time left... but due to the season separation the hands of the clock have stalled at five minutes to midnight. *You* made the first act of war. Now please take the first steps toward peace. The world awaits your decision. Thank you.

Berlin to Constantinople: While you *may* win this one, it won't be a victory you'll feel very good about, I should think. Anyone can win a game when their main opponent suddenly goes whacko and, like Don Quixote, starts tilting at the windmills of his peaceful and friendly neighbors. But you haven't won yet, and with luck, courage, and determination on the part of your many and varied foes, you won't. Once Austria withdraws his forces from my country, peace will break out in the center and you will once again face the full measure of the Austrian Imperial Guard. What they have done to Munich they can and will do to Constantinople. Get prepared for a long and grueling fight, sir...

GM to Europe: Man, what a sheaf of press! Who would have guessed that a separated season would be so talky?

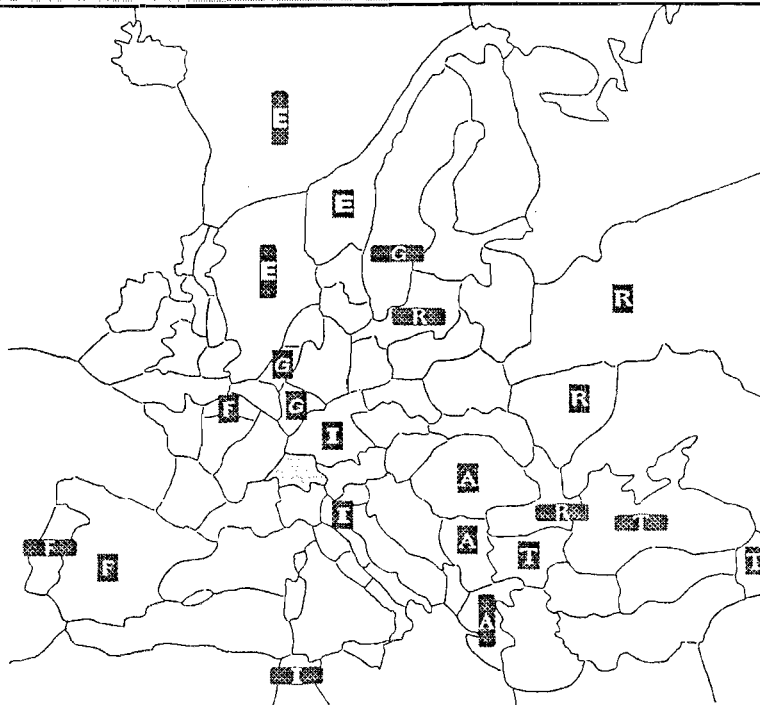
Pique ~ A New Game of Diplomacy ~ Fall 1901

**DISCORD IN
BELGIUM--
IN THE KEY OF
F OR G?**

**WINTER 1901
ORDERS DUE
NEXT TIME**

**MUNICH BLIND
TO VENETIAN
VENTURE**

**TSAR STAVES
OFF FIRST
T/A THRUST**



Austria (5):	A BUD-RUM, F ALB-GRE, A SER sup F ALB-GRE
England (4):	A EDI-NWY, F NTH con A EDI-NWY, F NWG sup A EDI-NWY
France (5):	A PIC-BEL, F MAO-POR, A SPA hold
Germany (4):	A KIE-HOL, A RUH-BEL, F DEN-SWE
Italy (5):	F ION-TUN, A TYO-MUN, A APU-VEN
Russia (5):	F GBO-BAL, A STP-MOS, F RUM-SEV, A UKR sup F RUM-SEV
Turkey (4):	A BUL-RUM, F BLA-SEV, A ARM sup F BLA-SEV

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World Press International: Reports of a medical emergency in the Tsar's household are currently circulating in Moscow. These reports have raised speculation about the stability of the Russian government. Military leaders admit that there has been a disruption of communications, but stress that the Tsar is firmly in control, and now that the emergency has passed, negotiations with foreign leaders will increase dramatically.

Paris: Today the government of Prime Minister Cleer Monchoo announced the selection of the Flying Dutchie Boy as the new Minister of Foreign Affairs. It has been rumored for some time that the Flying Dutchie Boy has had more affairs of all sorts than most men have in a lifetime, and he is barely 25 years old. "We picked a man to get the job

done. He works behind the scenes and has a large influence on the peoples of Europe. There has never been a job that he has not brought to conclusion, and very successful conclusions, at that." Time will tell if the Flying Dutchie Boy will be able to make his mark on the face of Europe.

Brest: It has been rumored for some time that the Flying Dutchie Boy would be moving his offices to Brest. "I like to be close to the heart of things and the breath of the Empire. Being in Brest, I'm the closest I'll be to those things that mean so much to me." This will mean that Brest will be having some new faces within the city, as people from the Foreign Office will be coming to town. Already there are rumors flying as to who will be the first guest in the offices of the Flying Dutchie Boy.

London: Rumors have it that the Flying Dutchie Boy has been to England already. Reports in the *Times* have stated that the Queen and the Flying Dutchie Boy have been in close conference for the last two days. When asked why normal channels were not used, no comment was given, though one staffer was reported as saying under his breath, "You don't get things done that way with everyone watching."

"Marines Land in Norway"

"Grateful Populace Throongs British Saviours"

Kristiansand: In what will surely become known as one of the most brilliant military operations in history, the First British Army (LPL), under the command of General Allistair Lethbridge-Stewart, successfully landed on the shores of this Scandinavian country. Major George Bannister, a spokesman for the General, described the operation.

"Our lads convoyed over the North Sea on the First Fleet (LON) to effect an amphibious landing on the Western banks of this quaint country. The Second Fleet (EDI) provided strategic and logistic support from the Norwegian Sea, along with shelling the Russians along the northern shore, thus guaranteeing an almost perfect execution of a most inspired plan."

The natives, who had been trembling under the shadow of the fanatical Tsarist troops on their eastern border, thronged the Brits, cheering, weeping, and embracing their saviours.

Although the overwhelming British military might forced the Russians to abandon their plans for now, they still remain a very real threat in the area, and may strike at any moment. The locals are well aware that they, and all the free world, will forever depend on the might of England to preserve liberty from maniacal dictators like the Tsar. For now, however, the Norwegians give thanks that their homeland will not be ravaged.

London: The Ministry of Information could shed no light on the increasingly murky situation in the Balkan region. Three nations vie for supremacy, and the turbulence grows daily.

The Ministry's spokesman, Jeffery Hammond-Hammond, declined to speculate on the current state of affairs, insisting that the situation could be too easily misinterpreted.

"Until we can more fully analyze the pertinent factors, we shall refrain from passing any sort of judgement."

As for Austria's role in the area, he cited "little concern."

"So long as Budapest refrains from assaulting our allies, we will issue no formal objection to their expansion."

He did, however, acknowledge some concerns over the actions of the government of Turkey-- or rather, the lack of action. Although he professed "no official opinion," he did admit the Crown's "distress at the Sultan's lack of response to our diplomatic efforts."

London: Parliament today reacted with great disfavour to the recent Russian military rumblings.

"The movement of the Tsarist forces northward is not at all cricket!" cried Martin Lancelot Barre, Deputy Minister of War for Jingoism.

"(Their actions) can only be viewed as anti-English and very unsettling," added Barrimore Barlow, spokesman for the Minister of Intelligence. "A threat to the Norselands is a threat to the Anglelands."

"Hear, hear," chimed in Minister Lord Cuthbury.

Other ministers concurred. "Without a serious reconsideration on the part of the Tsar, we will have no choice but to hold them as a dire and unforgivable enemy," vowed David Palmer of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He further noted that England's long history of conflict with the Eurasian giant, along with Russia's refusal to hold dialogue, helped fuel the fires of distrust.

Jeffery Hammond-Hammond, spokesman for the Ministry of Information, held that one encouraging sign in the Scandinavian theatre was Germany's strategic position in the area, vital to keeping the Russians in check. The spokesman praised the Kaiser for his selflessness in the defense of the Nordic countries. "With the Germans protecting the south coast and the English protecting the north," he proclaimed, "we are confident that we can hold the Tsarist aggression at bay."

London: Doane Perry, Deputy Minister of War for Domestic Security, in a speech yesterday before the House of Lords claimed "relative indifference" to the recent maneuvers of the French armed forces.

"It is reassuring to see our reighbours abide by the non-aggression and demilitarized zone we have unofficially established. Naturally, we would expect nothing less."

Asked to theorize on the Gallic intentions, the Minister stated that, so long as the French military do not venture north of the Middle Atlantic Ocean and Low Lands, "we consider their moves of no threat to Britain."

He went on to offer a stern warning to the Italian leadership, firmly advising them against proceeding with their unwarranted aggression. "Rome has gone too far. Their fleet actions in the Ionian Sea are indications of designs either on the well established colonies in North Africa or the sovereign nations of the Balkans. Furthermore, the move into TYO is a threat to the peaceful and independent German and Austrian peoples. They must seriously reconsider their plans, or face the Wrath of the coolest country on Earth-- England."

British Consulate, Moscow: The Tsar and his minions met against behind closed doors to discuss national policy. British Envoys admitted an uneasy feeling, due to the lack of communication between their respective governments.

"This is not the time for clandestine actions," declared the Assistant Minister for the Obvious, Alfred Jobson. "This is the time for open dialogue and communication."

Special British Envoy to Russia, Harvington Marion Smythe, could not be reached for comment.

Deadline for all games is Monday, June 1, 1992